

HM Treasury

FORECASTS FOR THE UK ECONOMY

A comparison of independent forecasts

Compiled by
Economic Assessment Team

No. 150
October 1999

Please note that Forecasts for the UK Economy is a summary of published material reflecting the views of the forecasting organisations themselves and does not in any way provide new information on the Treasury's own views. It contains only a selection of forecasters, which is subject to review. No significance should be attached to the inclusion or exclusion of any particular forecasting organisation. HM Treasury accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of material published in this comparison.

Payment of the subscription fee of £75, made out to " HM Treasury Votes Cash Account", should be sent with your order to Miss C T Coast-Smith, Public Enquiry Unit, HM Treasury, Room 110/2, Parliament Street, London, SW1P 3AG (Tel: 0171 270 4558), to whom subscription enquiries should also be addressed. A proforma invoice can be sent if requested.

Please direct enquiries on the contents of this issue to James Carrick (0171 270 5207).

The next edition will be published on 17 November 1999. It will also be made available at the Treasury's internet site: <http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk>.

FORECASTS FOR THE UK ECONOMY

A comparison of independent forecasts, October 1999

This edition of the comparison contains 26 new forecasts. The tables below summarise the average and range of independent forecasts for 1999 and 2000 and show the average of this month's new forecasts.

Forecasts for 1999

	Independent ⁺				Average of new* forecasts
	Averages		October range		
	September	October	Lowest	Highest	
GDP growth (per cent)	1.6	1.4	0.7	2.0	1.7
Inflation rate (Q4: per cent)					
- RPI	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.8	1.3
- RPI exc MIPs	2.1	2.1	1.5	2.5	2.1
Claimant unemployment (Q4: mn)	1.25	1.29	1.09	1.60	1.22
Current account (£bn)	-11.7	-9.7	-17.4	-6.0	-12.5
PSNB** (1999-00: £bn)	-2.6	1.0	-11.2	4.0	-4.1

Forecasts for 2000

	Independent ⁺				Average of new* forecasts
	Averages		October range		
	October	September	Lowest	Highest	
GDP growth (per cent)	2.6	2.5	1.1	3.7	2.7
Inflation rate (Q4: per cent)					
- RPI	2.8	2.8	1.7	3.8	2.8
- RPI exc MIPs	2.4	2.4	1.7	3.0	2.3
Claimant unemployment (Q4: mn)	1.23	1.30	0.92	1.75	1.19
Current account (£bn)	-14.0	-12.4	-29.0	-4.0	-14.7
PSNB** (2000-01 : £bn)	0.6	3.6	-12.0	8.0	-0.6

⁺Independent and City averages, and the range of forecasts, are based on forecasts made in the last three months (October 26 Institution, September 11 Institutions, August 2 Institutions).

*Based on new forecasts received for the comparison this month

**PSNB: Public Sector Net Borrowing.

Note: All the averages exclude non-standard entries (see footnotes a to dd)

		1999				October 1999		Table 1	
GDP & its components, at constant prices									
Percentage changes on a year earlier unless stated otherwise									
Forecasters & date of forecasts	GDP	Private	Government	Fixed	Change in	Domestic	Exports	Imports	
		Consumption	expenditure	investment	Inventories(£bn)	demand	(goods & services)		
City forecasters									
Abn Amro	Sep	1.4	3.8	3.5	3.3	-1.1	3.0	-1.0	3.9
Barclays Bank	Sep	1.5	4.1	2.6	2.8	-1.9	2.8	-0.5	3.4
Barclays Capital	Oct*	1.7	3.9	3.6	4.6	-1.4	3.3	0.1	4.9
Charterhouse	Oct*	2.0	4.0	4.0	4.7	1.5	3.8	0.1	5.6
Chase Manhattan	Sep	1.7	3.9	3.8	4.6	-1.6	3.4	-1.3	4.2
Credit Lyonnais	Oct*	1.5	4.4	3.5	4.4	-2.0	3.4	0.2	5.8
Credit Suisse First Boston	Sep	1.3	3.8	3.4	3.8	-2.6	2.9	-1.0	4.0
Daiwa Institute of Research	Oct*	1.6	4.0	3.5	3.2	-2.7	2.9	-0.7	1.4
Deutsche Bank	Sep	1.6	4.2	3.7	4.7	-0.8	3.6	-1.2	5.1
Dresdner Kleinwort Benson	Aug	1.5	3.8	3.5	4.1	-2.2	3.1	0.0	4.7
Economic Perspectives	Oct*	0.9	3.8	2.6	2.0	-1.0	2.6	-1.9	3.7
Goldman Sachs	Oct*	1.6	4.1	3.3	4.5	-2.8	3.1	0.1	5.5
Greenwich Natwest	Oct*	1.7	4.1	3.5	4.3	-0.4	3.5	1.7	6.7
Hermes	Oct*	1.8	3.9	3.6	4.0	-0.7	3.3	0.8	5.2
HSBC Econ & Strategy	Sep	1.5	3.5	2.0	3.5	1.2	2.9	-1.0	5.0
J P Morgan	Oct*	1.8	4.0	3.5	4.6	-0.3	3.5	0.1	5.2
Lehman Brothers	Oct*	1.7	4.4	3.6	3.9	-2.4	3.3	-0.5	4.6
Lombard St	Oct*	1.9	4.2	3.3	5.0	-0.2	3.6	0.0	5.3
Merrill Lynch	Oct*	1.7	4.0	3.2	4.5	-	-	-0.5	4.0
Morgan Stanley	Oct*	1.7	4.3	3.7	4.9	-0.7	3.7	0.5	9.2
Natwest Group	Oct*	1.7	4.0	3.5	4.6	-0.4	3.5	0.1	4.8
Norwich Union IM	Feb	0.9	1.4	2.5	1.0	1.8	1.3	-1.4	0.1
Salomon S Barney /Citibank	Oct*	1.8	4.2	3.1	5.7	-0.8	3.7	1.2	6.7
Schroders	Oct*	1.9	3.9	3.5	4.6	-	3.3	-1.0	3.1
S.G.	Oct*	1.6	4.0	3.0	5.6	0.3	3.6	0.2	6.0
Warburg Dillon Read	Oct*	1.5	4.1	3.7	4.4	-	2.9	-1.1	3.4
WestLB Panmure	Oct*	1.7	4.0	3.2	5.5	-2.1	3.2	0.2	4.7
Williams de Broe	Oct*	1.5	3.6	3.7	3.4	-1.5	2.9	0.9	4.7
Non-City forecasters									
BSL	Sep*	1.5	4.0	3.1	4.2	-0.2	3.4	-0.8	4.8
Cambridge Econ	Jun	0.7	1.5	2.0	2.9	3.0	1.7	0.0	3.1
CBI	Aug	1.2	2.9	3.2	4.2	0.6	2.7	-0.4	4.0
CEBR	Oct*	1.8	3.8	3.0	6.0	-1.9	3.6	-0.8	4.6
DRI	Jun	0.9	1.8	2.8	2.7	4.6	2.0	-1.0	1.8
EIU	Jul	0.8	2.0	2.5	3.4	1.5	2.0	-0.1	3.1
Henley	Oct*	1.7	4.0	3.5	4.3	0.2	3.4	-0.8	4.6
ITEM Club	Sep	1.5	2.5	2.5	4.0	-0.3	2.7	0.0	2.1
Liverpool Univ	Sep*	1.4	2.6 c	1.4 d	3.0 e	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Jul	1.2	2.7	3.3	5.7	-0.1	2.9	-0.3	5.2
OEF	Oct*	1.7	4.1	3.5	3.8	-0.1	3.4	0.2	5.3
Primark WEFA	Oct*	1.6	4.1	3.5	3.9	0.1	3.4	-0.6	5.0
EC	Apr	1.1	2.2	3.0	2.7	-1.5	-	2.5	4.7
OECD	Sep	0.7	1.2	2.0	-	-	1.5	2.4	4.1
IMF	Sep	0.7	1.3	2.1	4.4	-	2.4	2.0	5.3
Average of Forecasts made in last 3 months									
Independent		1.6	3.8	3.3	4.3	-0.9	3.2	-0.1	4.7
New (marked *)		1.7	4.0	3.4	4.4	-0.9	3.3	-0.1	5.0
City		1.6	4.0	3.4	4.3	-1.1	3.3	-0.2	4.8
Range of Forecasts made in last 3 months									
Highest		2.0	4.4	4.0	6.0	1.5	3.8	2.4	9.2
Lowest		0.7	1.2	2.0	2.0	-2.8	1.5	-1.9	1.4
HM Treasury	Mar	1-1½	2-2½	3	2-2½	2.4-3.2	2-2½	¼-¾	3¾-4¼

1999

October 1999

Table 2

Inflation and monetary indicators

Percentage changes on a year earlier unless stated otherwise

Forecasters & date of forecasts		RPI (Q4)	RPI exc MIPs (Q4)	Average earnings	Sterling index(Q4)	3- month interest rate(Q4,%)	Oil price (\$)	M0 (1999-00)	M4
City forecasters									
Abn Amro	Sep	1.5	2.2	4.5	102.8	5.35	15.5	7.8	6.3
Barclays Bank	Sep	1.2	2.1	4.3	103.0	5.00	-	5.0	6.0
Barclays Capital	Oct*	1.4	2.0	4.4	-	5.70	-	-	-
Charterhouse	Oct*	1.8	2.5	4.8	104.4	5.40	-	7.2	5.9
Chase Manhattan	Sep	1.7	2.2	3.8	102.0	5.40	18.0	5.5	7.5
Credit Lyonnais	Oct*	1.7	2.4	4.4	105.0	5.40	18.0	-	-
Credit Suisse First Boston	Sep	1.3	2.3	4.3	-	5.50	-	5.0	9.0
Daiwa Institute of Research	Oct*	1.3	2.0	5.0	103.9	5.60	-	-	-
Deutsche Bank	Sep	1.4	2.2	4.6	101.9	5.40	-	6.1	6.2
Dresdner Kleinwort Benson	Aug	1.1	2.0	4.2	102.5	5.40	17.0	-	-
Economic Perspectives	Oct*	1.1	1.9	3.8	103.0	5.50	16.5	6.5	5.2
Goldman Sachs	Oct*	1.5	2.3	4.5	98.0	5.70	16.9	9.0 jk	5.2 jk
Greenwich Natwest	Oct*	1.3	2.0	4.4	103.0	5.25	16.8	-	-
Hermes	Oct*	1.0	2.0	4.5	103.6	5.50	-	-	-
HSBC Econ & Strategy	Sep	1.0	1.9	3.8	103.0	5.00	14.0	5.0	7.1
J P Morgan	Oct*	1.4	2.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lehman Brothers	Oct*	1.2	1.9	4.6	100.4	5.64	16.8	6.7	5.7
Lombard St	Oct*	1.0	1.9	4.5	103.0	6.10	23.0	-	7.5
Merrill Lynch	Oct*	1.2	2.1	4.5	-	5.80	-	7.0	6.0
Morgan Stanley	Oct*	1.5	2.3	4.4	103.5	5.90	-	-	6.5
Natwest Group	Oct*	1.2	1.9	4.5	104.0	5.50	17.5	6.2	6.8
Norwich Union IM	Feb	1.3	2.0	3.8	96.0	5.00	12.0	5.0	5.0
Salomon S Barney /Citibank	Oct*	1.4	2.1	4.4	103.0	6.00	20.0	-	-
Schroders	Oct*	1.1	1.7	4.8	100.0	5.50	-	-	-
S.G.	Oct*	-	2.1	4.3	103.0	5.75	18.0	8.0	6.0
Warburg Dillon Read	Oct*	1.1	2.1	4.1	-	-	-	7.0	5.8
WestLB Panmure	Oct*	1.3	2.1	4.4	103.0	5.50	-	6.4	6.0
Williams de Broe	Oct*	1.1	1.8	4.6	104.2	5.30	17.5	6.9	5.6

Non-City forecasters

BSL	Sep*	1.1	2.0	4.1	101.5	5.25	16.2	-	-
Cambridge Econ	Jun	1.7 r	2.6 r	4.6 n	102.8 r	5.30 ks	14.7	-	-
CBI	Aug	1.3	2.1	4.3	101.5	5.00 s	16.5	-	-
CEBR	Oct*	1.6	2.4	4.6	100.8	5.20 s	19.0	-	-
DRI	Jun	1.0	2.3	4.1	102.4	5.11	14.4	4.9	8.5
EIU	Jul	1.2	2.2	4.0	100.1	5.10	14.0	5.3	6.9
Henley	Oct*	1.1	1.8	4.6	-	5.30	-	-	-
ITEM Club	Sep	1.6	2.2	4.8	102.7	5.50	20.0	6.3	7.6
Liverpool Univ	Sep*	-	1.5	4.6	102.6	5.00	-	-	-
NIESR	Jul	0.7	1.8	4.8	103.5	5.10	17.0	6.3 k	9.7 k
OEF	Oct*	1.5	2.1	5.0	105.2	5.70	17.6	7.1	7.1
Primark WEFA	Oct*	1.7	2.2	4.6	-	5.50	16.4	-	-
EC	Apr	1.5	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	-
OECD	Sep	-	-	4.9	116.3	4.4 k	-	-	5.7
IMF	Sep	-	-	4.1 i	113.7	-	-	-	-

Average of Forecasts made in last 3 months

Independent	1.3	2.1	4.5	103.5	5.49	17.6	6.5	6.5
New (marked *)	1.3	2.1	4.5	102.8	5.56	17.9	6.9	6.2
City	1.3	2.1	4.4	102.7	5.52	17.5	6.4	6.4

Range of Forecasts made in last 3 months

Highest	1.8	2.5	5.0	116.3	6.10	23.0	8.0	9.0
Lowest	1.0	1.5	3.8	98.0	5.00	14.0	5.0	5.2

HM Treasury	Mar	-	2½	-	-	-	-	-
-------------	-----	---	----	---	---	---	---	---

1999

October 1999

Table 3

Other variables

Percentage changes on a year earlier unless stated otherwise

Forecasters & dates of forecasts	RHDI	Employment	Claimant unemp. (Q4-mns)	Industrial production	Manuf'g output	World Trade	Current account (£ bn)(£bn 99-00)	PSNB	
City forecasters									
Abn Amro	Sep	4.1	0.4	1.30	-0.1	-0.5	4.8	-11.5	-0.9
Barclays Bank	Sep*	3.0	0.5	1.30	-	-0.5	-	-6.0	3.0
Barclays Capital	Oct*	3.8	0.7	1.20	0.1	-0.4	-	-11.9	-3.0 cc
Charterhouse	Oct*	3.4	1.1	1.09	0.5	-0.1	-	-17.4	-11.2
Chase Manhattan	Sep	2.3	0.5	1.30	-0.5	-0.8	-	-13.0	3.0 cc
Credit Lyonnais	Oct*	-	-	1.15	0.0	-0.5	4.0	-13.7	-5.0 cc
Credit Suisse First Boston	Sep	2.0	-0.5	1.60	0.0	-1.0	-	-6.0	0.0
Daiwa Institute of Research	Oct*	1.9	0.6	1.30	-	-	-	-12.6	-5.5
Deutsche Bank	Sep	2.3	-	1.21	-0.1	-0.4	-	-12.5	2.0 cc
Dresdner Kleinwort Benson	Aug	2.8	0.7	1.28	-0.1	-0.3	-	-10.2	0.0
Economic Perspectives	Oct*	2.3	-0.2	1.35	-0.4	-0.8	3.0	-13.0	-3.0
Goldman Sachs	Oct*	2.2	0.5	1.24	0.1	-0.2	-	-15.5	0.3
Greenwich Natwest	Oct*	2.9	1.4	1.70 aa	-0.1	-0.5	4.1	-13.0	-5.0
Hermes	Oct*	2.0	0.6	1.21	-0.3	-	-	-9.5	3.7
HSBC Econ & Strategy	Sep	2.5	0.2	1.30	-	-1.5	-	-11.0	1.0
J P Morgan	Oct*	-	-	-	0.1	1.0	-	-14.3	-4.0 cc
Lehman Brothers	Oct*	3.2	0.5	1.22	-0.3	-0.6	5.5	-12.0	0.0 cc
Lombard St	Oct*	2.4	0.5	1.20	-	-	-	-14.0	2.7 cc
Merrill Lynch	Oct*	-	-	1.15	-	-0.3	-	-12.0	0.0 cc
Morgan Stanley	Oct*	2.3	0.3	1.20	-0.2	-0.5	-	-14.0	-3.0 cc
Natwest Group	Oct*	3.9	0.5	1.20	0.1	-0.5	4.0	-12.8	-4.0
Norwich Union IM	Feb	2.8	-0.1	1.55	-0.5	-0.5	-	-9.0	5.0
Salomon S Barney /Citibank	Oct*	3.0	0.5	1.20	-0.2	-0.8	-	-15.6	-5.0
Schroders	Oct*	1.2	-0.4	1.42	-0.2	-0.7	-	-11.7	4.0
S.G.	Oct*	1.2	1.3	1.26	-0.5	-0.5	4.5	-12.0	-4.0
Warburg Dillon Read	Oct*	-	0.8	1.20	-0.1	-0.4	-	-8.0	-4.0
WestLB Panmure	Oct*	2.5	0.7	1.13	0.0	-0.5	-	-12.0	6.0 cc
Williams de Broe	Oct*	-	0.7	1.24	0.1	-0.3	5.9	-9.0	-8.3
Non-City forecasters									
BSL	Sep*	4.2	0.6	1.15	-0.4	-0.7	2.6	-10.0	-9.5
Cambridge Econ	Jun	1.9	0.8	1.40 r	-1.0	-1.5	2.0 r	-7.4	1.3 kcc
CBI	Aug	1.9	0.4	1.28	-0.2	-0.8	1.3	-8.3	2.2 cc
CEBR	Oct*	0.5	0.4	1.30	-	-0.2	-	-11.5	-6.3 cc
DRI	Jun	2.2	0.7	1.35	0.3	-0.3	4.0	2.0	-8.8
EIU	Jul	2.7	-0.1	1.47	-0.8	-1.1	3.4	-8.7	3.7
Henley	Oct*	3.5	1.0	1.20	-	-0.5	-	-8.6	-
ITEM Club	Sep	2.9	0.0	1.30	-0.6	-0.6	4.0	-8.8	1.0
Liverpool Univ	Sep*	-	-	1.18	-	-	-	-14.1	-9.8 cc
NIESR	Jul	3.9	0.6	1.29	-	-1.1	4.9	-6.5	2.4
OEF	Oct*	3.0	0.6	1.20	-0.2	-0.7	6.9	-11.5	-5.2
Primark WEFA	Oct*	2.8	0.5	1.30	-0.3	-0.6	4.4	-14.2	4.1 cc
EC	Apr	-	0.3	6.50 aa	0.5	-	5.1	-8.9	-
OECD	Sep	-	0.4	6.70 aa	0.1	-	-	1.8 t	-
IMF	Sep	-	0.3	4.60 x	-	-	-	-	-
Average of Forecasts made in last 3 months									
Independent		2.6	0.5	1.25	-0.1	-0.5	4.2	-11.7	-2.6
New (marked *)		2.6	0.6	1.22	-0.1	-0.4	4.5	-12.5	-4.1
City		2.6	0.5	1.25	-0.1	-0.5	4.5	-12.0	-2.3
Range of Forecasts made in last 3 months									
Highest		4.2	1.4	1.60	0.5	1.0	6.9	-6.0	4.0
Lowest		0.5	-0.5	1.09	-0.6	-1.5	1.3	-17.4	-11.2
HM Treasury	Mar	2½-3	-	-	-	-1½ to -1	5¼	-10	4

		2000				October 1999		Table 4	
		GDP & its components, at constant prices							
		Percentage changes on a year earlier unless stated otherwise							
Forecasters & date of forecasts		GDP	Private Consumption	Government expenditure	Fixed investment	Change in Inventories(£bn)	Domestic demand	Exports (goods & services)	Imports
City forecasters									
Abn Amro	Sep	3.0	3.4	2.4	3.7	1.5	3.6	4.8	6.2
Barclays Bank	Sep	2.0	3.0	2.0	-2.0	0.0	2.2	4.0	4.0
Barclays Capital	Oct*	2.7	2.2	2.8	2.1	2.0	2.7	4.9	4.7
Charterhouse	Oct*	1.8	1.9	4.0	-1.0	0.6	1.6	4.2	3.5
Chase Manhattan	Sep	2.3	2.3	4.0	5.3	2.4	3.7	1.1	5.4
Credit Lyonnais	Oct*	2.5	3.7	2.2	2.6	0.2	3.5	3.4	6.3
Credit Suisse First Boston	Sep	2.5	3.0	2.2	3.5	0.0	3.2	4.1	6.0
Daiwa Institute of Research	Oct*	2.6	2.9	2.0	1.0	-1.0	2.6	4.9	2.5
Deutsche Bank	Sep	3.1	4.0	3.4	5.3	4.0	4.7	3.0	7.6
Dresdner Kleinwort Benson	Aug	2.2	3.3	2.3	1.1	-0.7	3.1	4.5	6.2
Economic Perspectives	Oct*	1.1	2.5	2.0	0.1	0.0	2.1	-0.5	2.6
Goldman Sachs	Oct*	2.4	3.5	2.2	4.1	0.8	3.6	4.5	7.7
Greenwich Natwest	Oct*	2.9	3.6	2.4	2.3	2.0	3.4	6.4	7.1
Hermes	Oct*	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.6	1.7	2.9	4.9	5.3
HSBC Econ & Strategy	Sep	2.5	3.0	2.0	1.5	2.9	2.7	3.0	3.5
J P Morgan	Oct*	3.7	3.6	2.8	4.1	4.5	4.1	5.3	6.4
Lehman Brothers	Oct*	2.9	4.0	3.0	1.9	-0.4	3.5	2.2	4.0
Lombard St	Oct*	3.3	3.1	2.6	4.9	1.2	3.6	4.0	4.5
Merrill Lynch	Oct*	3.2	3.5	3.0	3.5	-	-	4.0	5.0
Morgan Stanley	Oct*	3.3	4.2	3.4	5.3	2.9	4.7	6.4	8.4
Natwest Group	Oct*	2.5	2.5	2.1	2.8	2.2	2.8	3.8	4.2
Norwich Union IM	Feb	2.6	2.6	2.8	1.8	3.7	2.7	3.1	3.4
Salomon S Barney /Citibank	Oct*	2.5	3.2	2.2	6.6	-0.4	3.7	5.3	8.5
Schroders	Oct*	2.5	2.8	2.4	1.9	-	2.9	2.6	3.5
S.G.	Oct*	2.9	2.8	2.8	4.5	2.3	3.4	2.7	4.6
Warburg Dillon Read	Oct*	3.0	3.6	2.7	2.6	-	3.2	3.5	4.2
WestLB Panmure	Oct*	3.0	3.0	2.4	4.5	-2.1	3.0	4.0	4.1
Williams de Broe	Oct*	3.0	2.5	2.8	3.4	2.8	3.2	5.2	5.7
Non-City forecasters									
BSL	Sep*	2.5	2.8	2.5	2.3	3.2	3.1	4.7	6.1
Cambridge Econ	Jun	1.7	2.1	2.1	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.1	2.6
CBI	Aug	2.3	2.5	2.1	2.6	2.2	2.6	3.0	3.8
CEBR	Oct*	2.2	3.2	2.7	3.8	-1.0	3.7	0.3	4.6
DRI	Jun	1.7	0.8	3.7	4.8	-0.3	2.4	4.2	5.5
EIU	Jul	2.0	2.3	2.3	2.0	1.6	2.2	5.0	5.3
Henley	Oct*	2.4	2.9	2.6	2.2	2.8	3.0	2.6	4.3
ITEM Club	Sep	2.5	2.7	2.6	1.0	0.0	2.2	4.0	3.0
Liverpool Univ	Sep*	2.7	1.5 c	2.0 d	3.6 e	-	-	-	-
NIESR	Jul	2.6	2.4	2.8	4.2	0.6	2.9	5.5	5.9
OEF	Oct*	2.8	3.0	2.2	0.4	5.7	3.1	4.5	4.9
Primark WEFA	Oct*	2.4	3.0	2.2	0.2	2.3	2.6	3.9	4.6
EC	Apr	2.3	2.5	2.0	3.6	0.1	-	5.4	5.8
OECD	Sep*	1.6	1.6	2.2	-	-	1.7	3.9	4.1
IMF	Sep*	2.2	2.0	2.8	3.3	-	2.4	4.1	4.6
Average of Forecasts made in last 3 months									
Independent		2.6	3.0	2.6	2.7	1.4	3.1	3.8	5.0
New (marked *)		2.7	3.1	2.6	2.7	1.5	3.2	3.9	5.1
City		2.7	3.1	2.6	2.9	1.2	3.2	3.9	5.2
Range of Forecasts made in last 3 months									
Highest		3.7	4.2	4.0	6.6	5.7	4.7	6.4	8.5
Lowest		1.1	1.6	2.0	-2.0	-2.1	1.6	-0.5	2.5
HM Treasury	Mar	2¼-2¾	2½ - 3	2¼	2¾-3¼	0.8-2.4	2¼-3	4½-5	4½-5

2000

October 1999

Table 5

Inflation and monetary indicators

Percentage changes on a year earlier unless stated otherwise

Forecasters & date of forecasts		RPI (Q4)	RPI exc MIPs (Q4)	Average earnings	Sterling index(Q4)	3- month interest rate(Q4,%)	Oil price (\$)	M0 (2000-1)	M4
City forecasters									
Abn Amro	Sep	3.4	2.3	4.9	97.7	6.10	16.5	3.0	6.0
Barclays Bank	Sep	2.4	2.0	3.8	95.0	5.00	-	5.0	4.0
Barclays Capital	Oct*	3.1	2.5	4.3	-	5.80	-	-	-
Charterhouse	Oct*	3.8	3.0	4.9	97.0	6.90	-	5.9	7.4
Chase Manhattan	Sep	2.6	2.6	3.7	98.0	5.80	16.0	6.5	7.5
Credit Lyonnais	Oct*	2.7	2.3	4.0	100.0	5.50	19.0	-	-
Credit Suisse First Boston	Sep	2.5	2.5	3.8	-	6.00	-	5.0	8.0
Daiwa Institute of Research	Oct*	2.0	2.5	4.9	99.3	6.00	-	-	-
Deutsche Bank	Sep	3.5	2.5	4.9	104.0	6.60	-	7.5	9.6
Dresdner Kleinwort Benson	Aug	2.7	2.2	3.9	100.6	5.50	17.0	-	-
Economic Perspectives	Oct*	1.8	1.7	3.5	98.0	4.50	15.0	4.8	5.0
Goldman Sachs	Oct*	2.9	2.0	4.1	91.0	6.00	20.3	5.0 jk	7.0 jk
Greenwich Natwest	Oct*	2.5	1.9	4.4	98.9	6.00	18.3	-	-
Hermes	Oct*	3.2	2.5	4.3	99.9	6.00	-	-	-
HSBC Econ & Strategy	Sep	2.7	2.1	3.8	99.2	5.50	15.0	6.0	9.0
J P Morgan	Oct*	3.5	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lehman Brothers	Oct*	2.8	2.3	5.0	98.9	5.95	17.5	6.4	6.7
Lombard St	Oct*	2.6	2.7	4.8	96.0	6.20	25.0	-	7.5
Merrill Lynch	Oct*	3.1	2.4	4.7	-	6.10	-	7.0	7.0
Morgan Stanley	Oct*	3.4	2.9	4.7	102.4	6.70	-	-	9.5
Natwest Group	Oct*	2.7	2.5	3.8	99.1	6.30	19.0	6.5	7.0
Norwich Union IM	Feb	2.0	2.4	3.8	95.0	5.00	14.0	7.0	7.0
Salomon S Barney /Citibank	Oct*	3.4	2.2	4.0	100.0	6.20	20.0	-	-
Schroders	Oct*	3.0	2.0	4.2	96.0	6.30	-	-	-
S.G.	Oct*	-	1.9	4.5	99.0	6.95	18.0	10.0	8.5
Warburg Dillon Read	Oct*	1.7	1.8	3.8	-	-	-	5.9	6.9
WestLB Panmure	Oct*	2.8	2.6	4.8	103.0	6.00	-	6.5	7.5
Williams de Broe	Oct*	2.7	2.3	4.7	104.2	5.60	22.5	5.3	10.5

Non-City forecasters

BSL	Sep*	2.5	2.1	3.5	99.6	5.00	16.6	-	-
Cambridge Econ	Jun	3.1 r	2.6 r	4.1	98.1 r	5.40 ks	15.0	-	-
CBI	Aug	2.3	2.3	4.2	97.0	5.00 s	18.0	-	-
CEBR	Oct*	2.5	2.4	5.3	106.6	5.90 s	19.2	-	-
DRI	Jun	3.1	2.7	3.8	99.3	5.72	16.3	2.5	7.0
EIU	Jul	2.6	2.5	4.3	96.5	5.20	15.5	6.1	7.1
Henley	Oct*	2.4	1.9	5.0	-	6.30	-	-	-
ITEM Club	Sep	3.2	2.9	4.8	99.0	6.25	22.0	5.0	8.6
Liverpool Univ	Sep*	-	2.6	3.9	100.1	5.20	-	-	-
NIESR	Jul	3.7	3.1	5.3	102.7	5.10	17.3	6.7 k	13.7 k
OEF	Oct*	3.8	2.4	4.9	101.6	6.50	20.0	6.6	9.9
Primark WEFA	Oct*	2.5	2.6	4.2	-	5.50	19.9	-	-
EC	Apr	2.2	-	4.5	-	-	-	-	-
OECD	Sep	-	-	4.3	117.3	4.60 k	-	-	-
IMF	Sep	-	-	4.1 i	-	-	-	-	-

Average of Forecasts made in last 3 months

Independent	2.8	2.3	4.4	99.9	5.94	18.7	6.3	7.7
New (marked *)	2.8	2.3	4.4	99.5	5.98	19.3	6.5	7.8
City	2.8	2.3	4.3	99.0	5.98	18.5	6.1	7.5

Range of Forecasts made in last 3 months

Highest	3.8	3.0	5.3	117.3	6.95	25.0	10.0	10.5
Lowest	1.7	1.7	3.5	91.0	4.50	15.0	3.0	4.0

HM Treasury	Mar	-	2½	-	-	-	-	-
-------------	-----	---	----	---	---	---	---	---

2000

October 1999

Table 6

Other variables

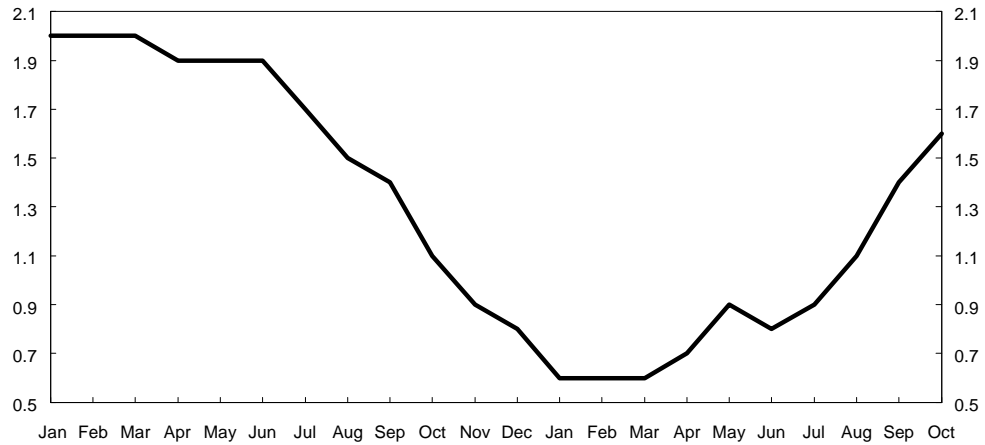
Percentage changes on a year earlier unless stated otherwise

Forecasters & dates of forecasts		RHDI	Employment	Claimant unemp. (Q4-mns)	Industrial production	Manuf'g output	World Trade	Current account (£ bn)	PSNB (£bn 00-01)
City forecasters									
Abn Amro	Sep	3.4	0.7	1.20	2.4	2.2	6.6	-15.4	1.6
Barclays Bank	Sep*	2.2	-0.3	1.50	-	2.0	-	-4.0	5.0
Barclays Capital	Oct*	3.3	0.3	1.20	2.8	2.7	-	-12.0	1.5 cc
Charterhouse	Oct*	2.5	0.4	1.20	1.4	1.5	-	-23.1	-6.2
Chase Manhattan	Sep	2.3	1.2	1.30	1.0	1.0	-	-20.0	10.0 cc
Credit Lyonnais	Oct*	-	-	1.00	1.5	1.2	5.0	-11.6	-1.5 cc
Credit Suisse First Boston	Sep	2.3	-0.5	1.75	1.0	1.0	-	-10.0	7.5
Daiwa Institute of Research	Oct*	3.6	0.1	1.30	-	-	-	-9.1	-5.5
Deutsche Bank	Sep	3.8	-	1.09	2.5	2.7	-	-15.5	7.0 cc
Dresdner Kleinwort Benson	Aug*	3.4	0.7	1.20	2.6	2.7	-	-11.1	3.1
Economic Perspectives	Oct*	1.5	-0.4	1.55	0.7	1.7	4.5	-17.0	8.0
Goldman Sachs	Oct*	3.0	0.4	1.15	1.8	1.8	-	-27.5	-0.1
Greenwich Natwest	Oct*	3.3	0.6	1.65 aa	3.0	2.8	4.7	-11.1	3.4
Hermes	Oct*	4.0	0.8	1.17	2.5	-	-	-11.0	4.5
HSBC Econ & Strategy	Sep	2.5	-0.1	1.40	-	1.0	-	-10.0	3.0
J P Morgan	Oct*	-	-	-	2.9	2.2	-	-18.5	-12.0 cc
Lehman Brothers	Oct*	2.6	1.5	1.09	2.4	2.5	6.5	-8.5	3.5 cc
Lombard St	Oct*	3.0	0.7	1.20	-	-	-	-19.0	7.3 cc
Merrill Lynch	Oct*	-	-	1.10	-	2.8	-	-14.0	2.0 cc
Morgan Stanley	Oct*	3.7	1.5	1.00	2.1	2.6	-	-20.0	0.0 cc
Natwest Group	Oct*	3.5	0.8	1.17	2.8	2.4	5.5	-10.9	0.0
Norwich Union IM	Feb	3.1	1.6	1.40	1.5	1.5	-	-12.0	2.0
Salomon S Barney /Citibank	Oct*	3.3	0.7	1.10	1.3	1.0	-	-29.0	0.0
Schroders	Oct*	2.3	-0.6	1.55	0.8	1.3	-	-16.2	8.0
S.G.	Oct*	2.9	1.6	1.15	1.5	1.5	6.0	-16.0	-6.0
Warburg Dillon Read	Oct*	-	1.0	1.10	2.4	2.4	-	-5.0	-6.0
WestLB Panmure	Oct*	2.8	1.8	0.92	1.8	2.0	-	-8.0	5.0 cc
Williams de Broe	Oct*	-	0.7	1.24	3.7	3.7	6.4	-7.4	-12.0
Non-City forecasters									
BSL	Sep*	4.7	0.2	1.25	1.0	1.3	5.0	-14.2	-3.9
Cambridge Econ	Jun	2.1	0.0	1.60 r	1.1	1.4	3.0 r	-8.2	5.1 kcc
CBI	Aug	2.7	0.3	1.29	1.8	1.1	5.7	-11.4	3.4 cc
CEBR	Oct*	5.2	1.4	1.30	-	0.9	-	-21.0	-2.1 cc
DRI	Jun	0.7	0.0	1.42	2.8	2.8	5.4	0.1	10.3
EIU	Jul	2.8	0.1	1.56	1.5	1.2	5.3	-7.9	6.5
Henley	Oct*	3.2	0.7	1.10	-	1.9	-	-12.4	-
ITEM Club	Sep*	2.3	1.0	1.40	2.0	2.2	7.0	-10.6	3.0
Liverpool Univ	Sep*	-	-	1.14	-	-	-	-17.7	-14.2 cc
NIESR	Jul	4.5	0.6	1.34	-	0.6	4.7	-13.7	1.1
OEF	Oct*	3.1	0.4	1.30	1.3	1.7	8.3	-9.4	-4.8
Primark WEFA	Oct*	2.3	0.3	1.31	2.6	2.2	8.8	-13.9	5.0 cc
EC	Apr	-	0.5	6.60 aa	1.0	-	6.4	-10.4	-
OECD	Sep	-	0.4	7.30 aa	1.4	-	-	-1.5 t	-
IMF	Sep	-	-0.3	5.10 x	-	-	-	-	-
Average of Forecasts made in last 3 months									
Independent		3.1	0.6	1.23	2.0	1.9	6.2	-14.0	0.6
New (marked *)		3.2	0.7	1.19	2.0	2.0	6.1	-14.7	-0.6
City		3.0	0.6	1.22	2.0	2.0	5.7	-14.1	1.0
Range of Forecasts made in last 3 months									
Highest		5.2	1.8	1.75	3.7	3.7	8.8	-4.0	8.0
Lowest		1.5	-0.6	0.92	0.7	0.9	4.5	-29.0	-12.0
HM Treasury	Mar	2½-3	-	-	-	1½-2	5¾	-10½	5

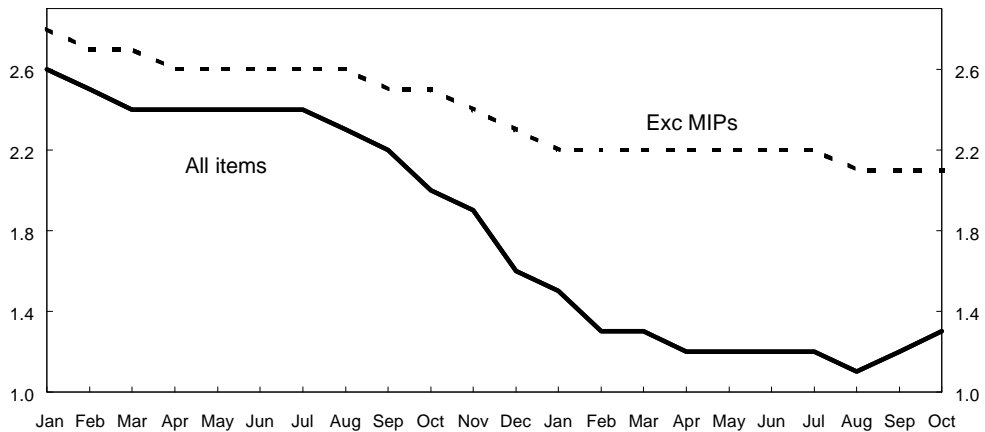
Forecasts for 1999

Independent average, January 1998 - October 1999

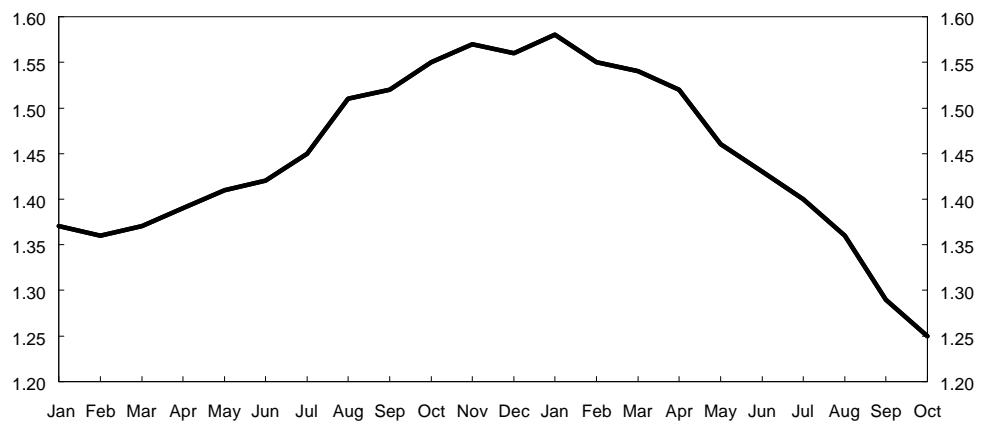
GDP growth (per cent)



Retail price inflation (Q4, per cent)



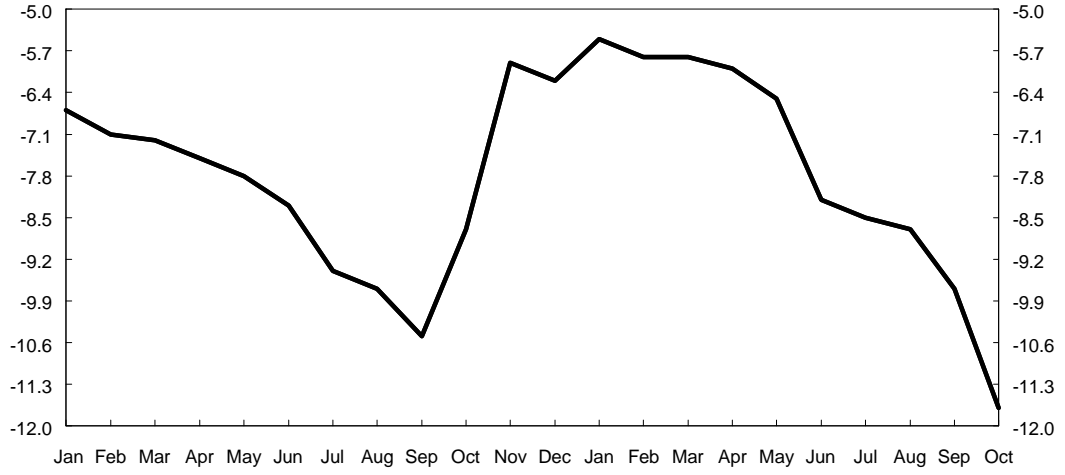
Claimant unemployment (Q4, millions)



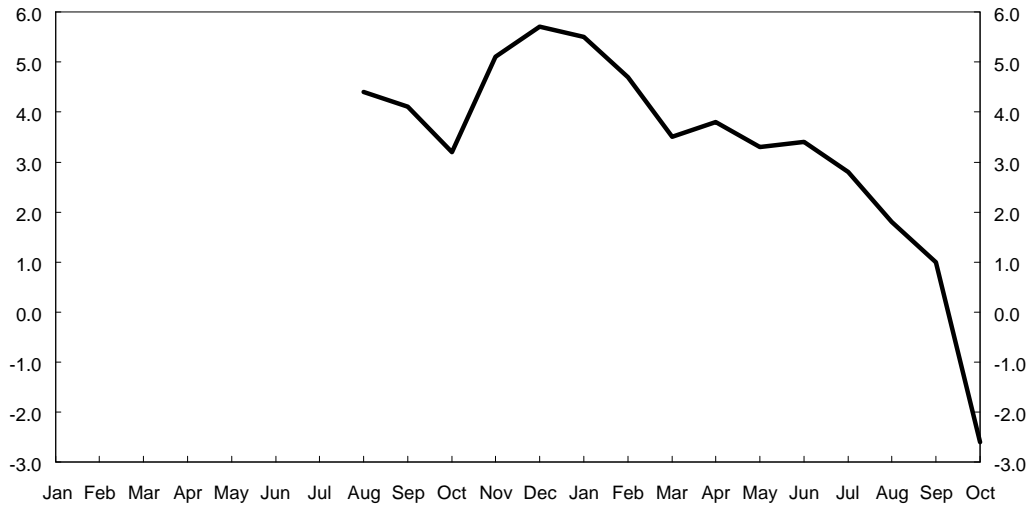
Forecasts for 1999

Independent average, January 1998 -October 1999

Current account
(£ billion)



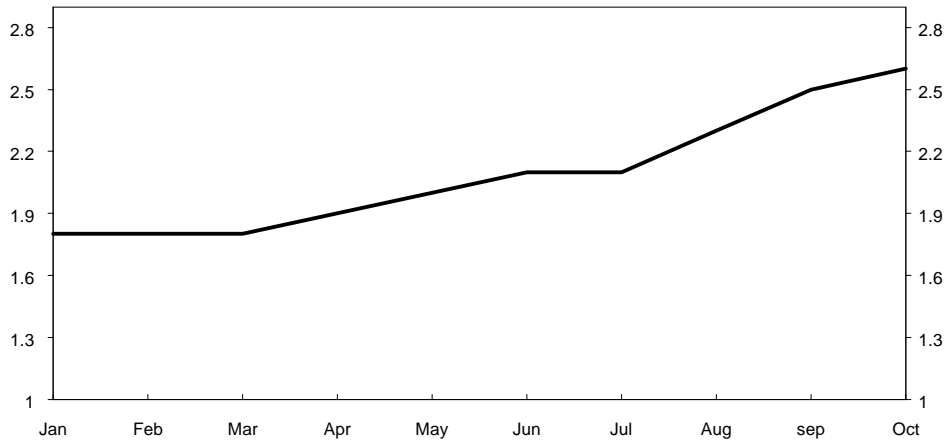
PSNB 1999-00
(£ billion)



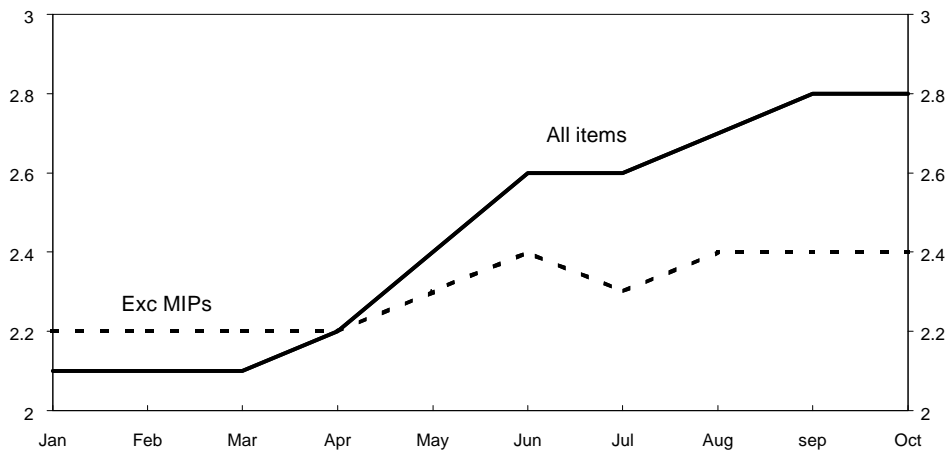
Forecasts for 2000

Independent average, January 1999 - October 1999

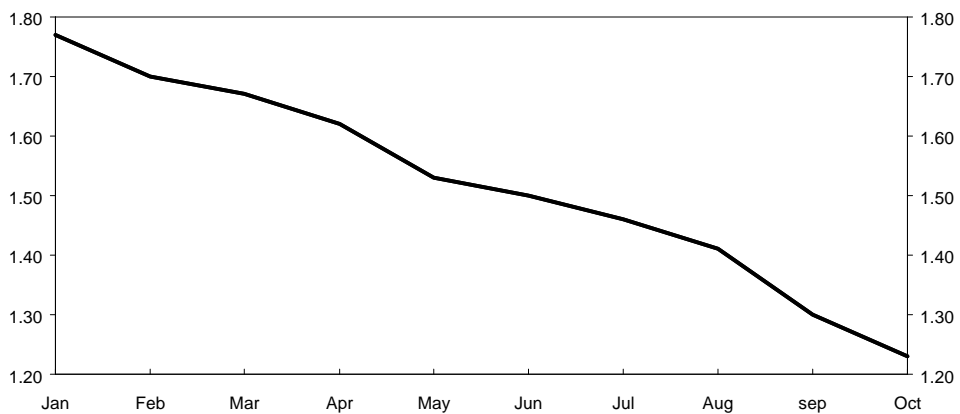
GDP growth (per cent)



Retail price inflation (Q4, per cent)

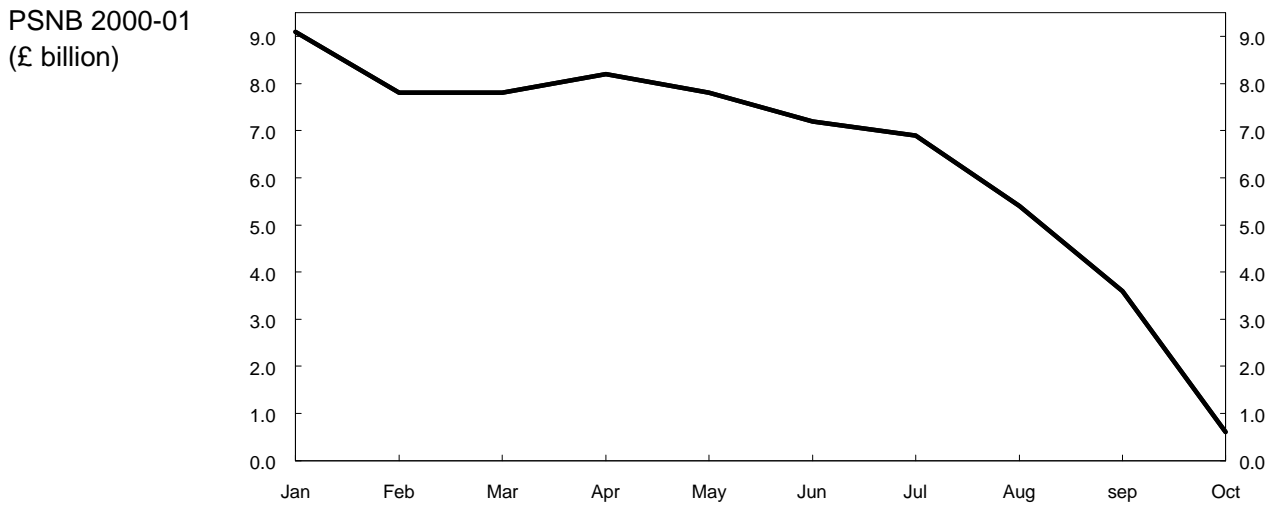
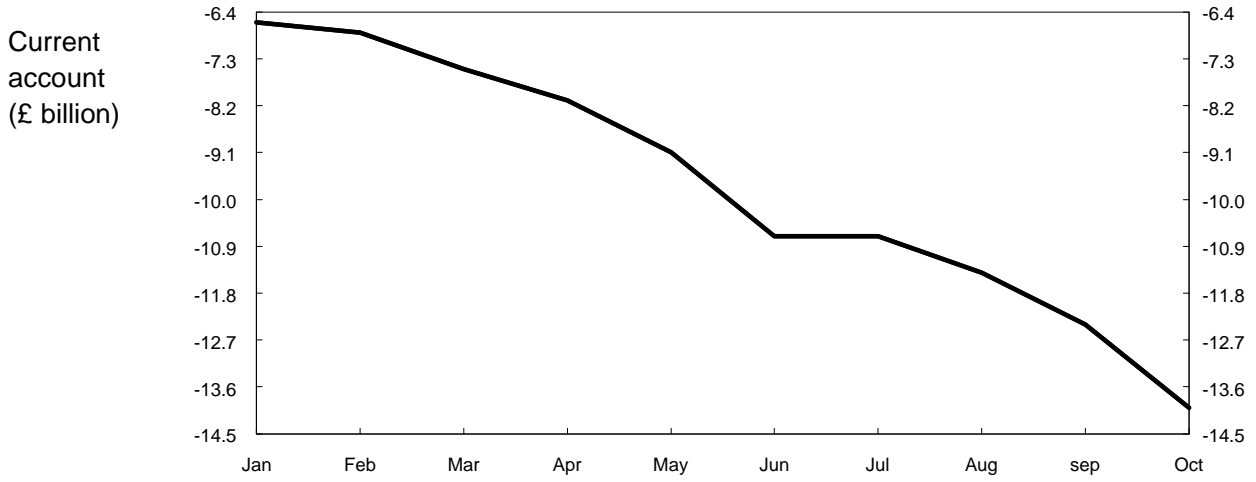


Claimant unemployment (Q4, millions)



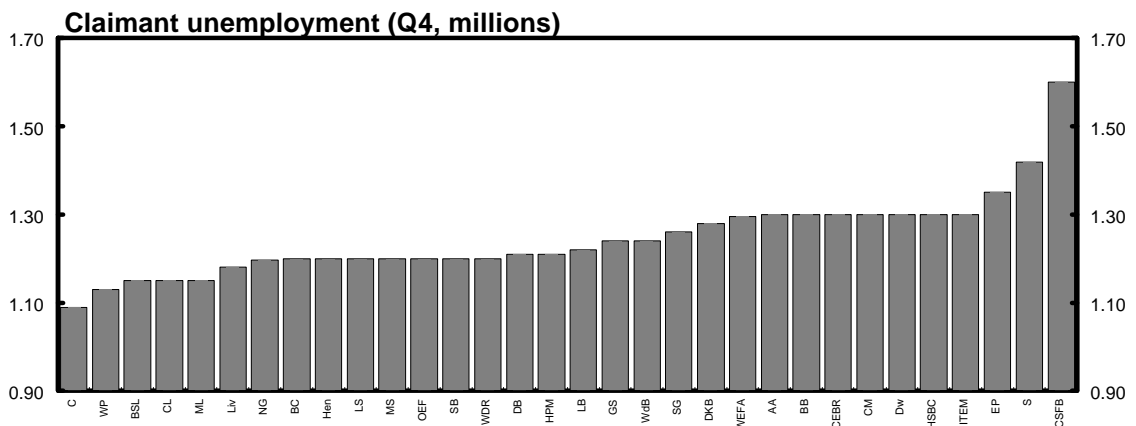
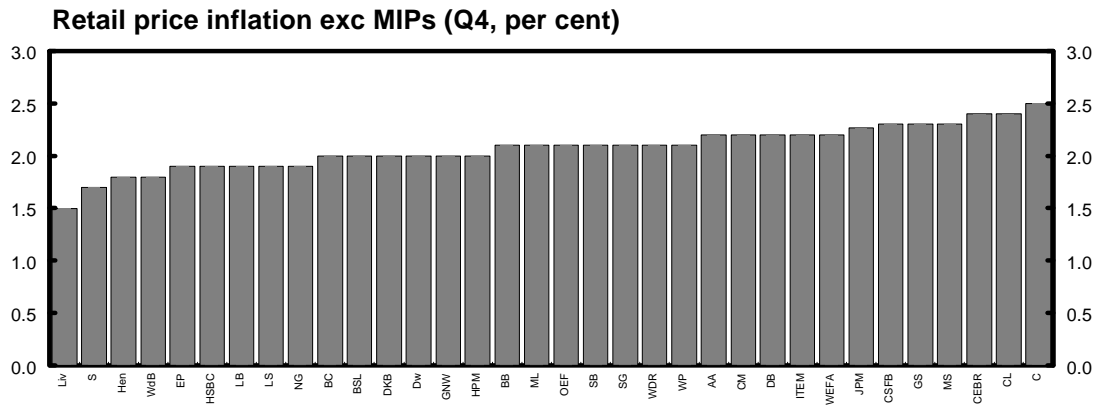
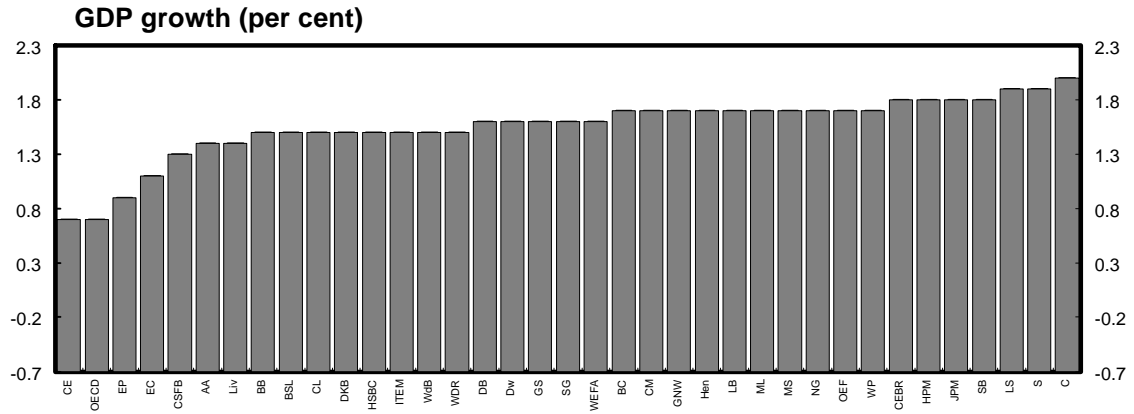
Forecasts for 2000

Independent average, January 1999 - October 1999



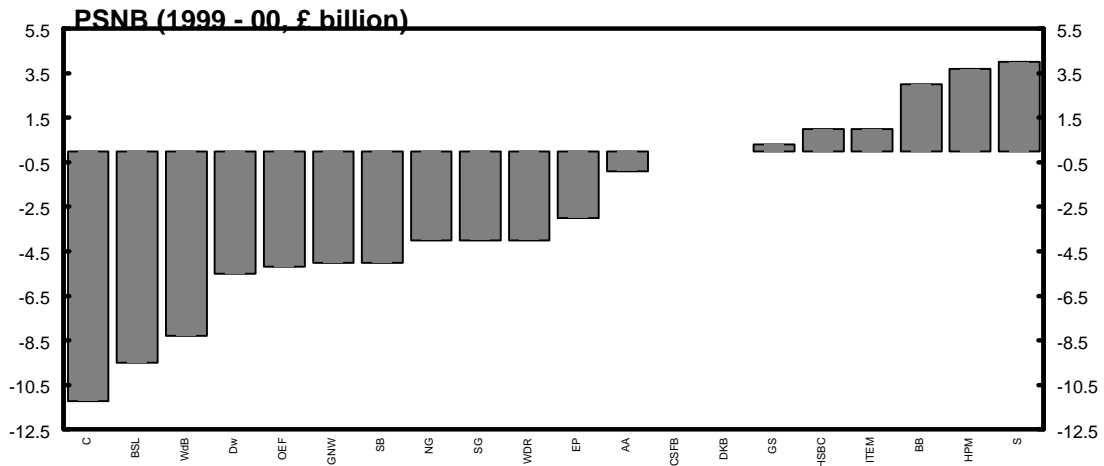
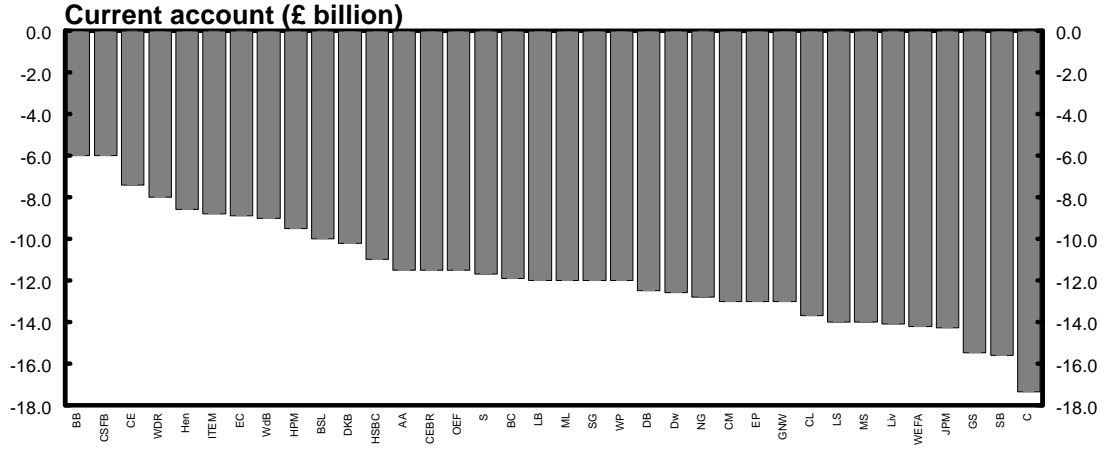
Forecasts for 1999

October 1999 range of forecasts (made in last 3 months)



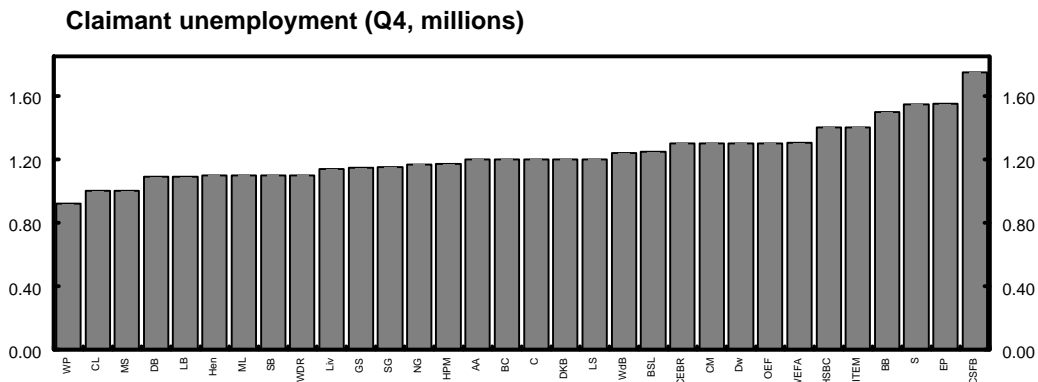
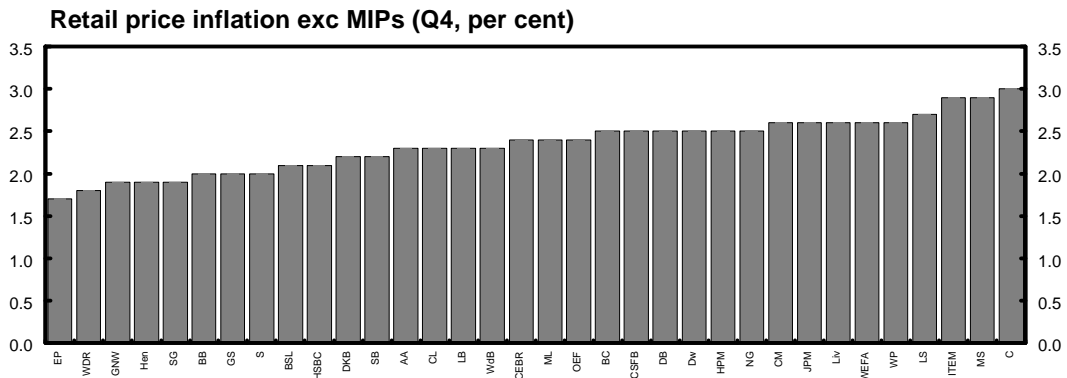
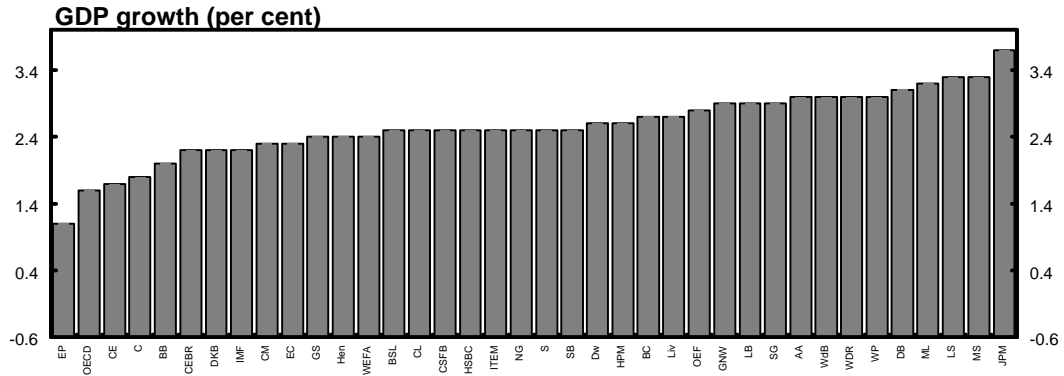
Forecasts for 1999

October 1999 range of forecasts (made in last 3 months)



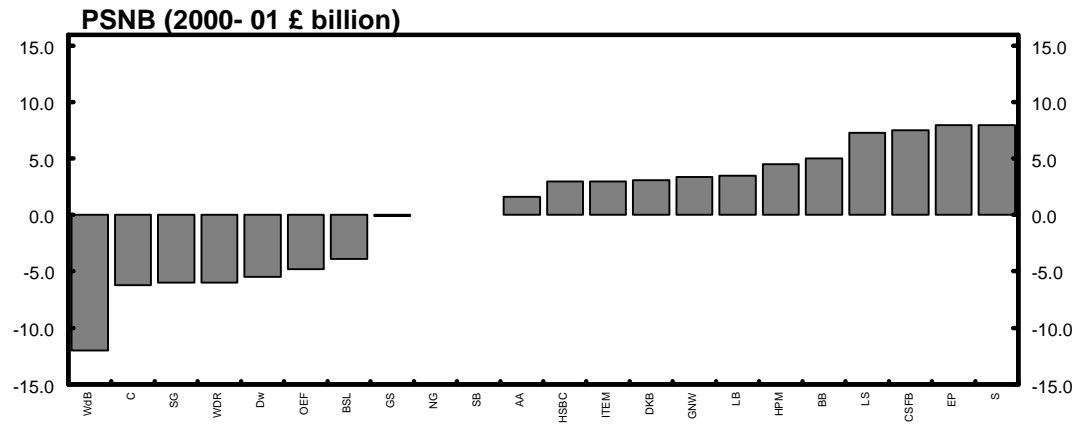
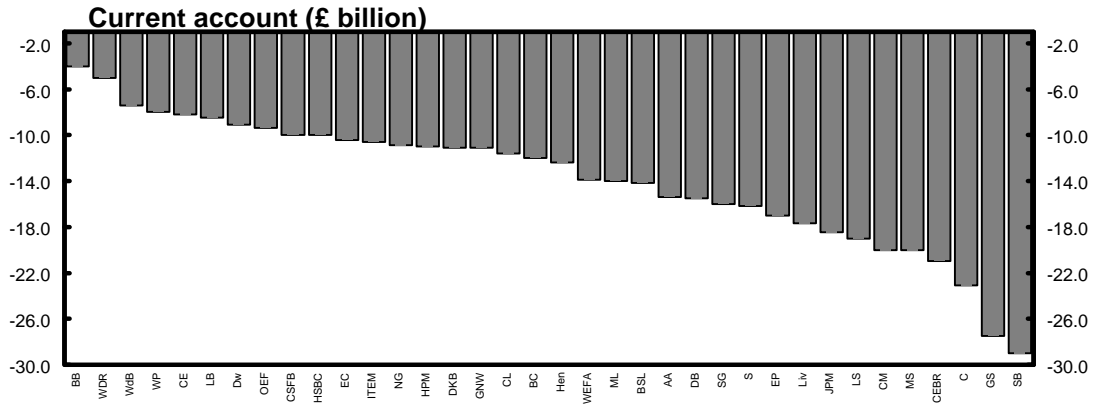
Forecasts for 2000

October 1999, range of forecasts (made in last 3months)



Forecasts for 2000

October 1999, range of forecasts (made in last 3 months)



ANNEX 1: Forecasting institutions referred to in charts and tables

AA:	Abn Amro
BB:	Barclays Bank
BZW:	Barclays Capital
BSL:	Business Strategies Ltd
CE:	Cambridge Econometric
C:	Charterhouse
CM:	Chase Manhattan
CBI:	Confederation of British Industry
CEBR:	Centre for Economics and Business Research
CL:	Credit Lyonnais
CSFB:	Credit Suisse First Boston
Dw:	Daiwa Europe Ltd/DIR
DB:	Deutsche Bank
DKB	Dresdner Kleinwort Benson
DRI:	Data Resources Inc. Europe
EC:	European Commission
EIU	Economist Intelligence Unit
EP:	Economic Perspectives
GNW:	Greenwich Natwest
GS:	Goldman Sachs
Hen:	Henley Forecasting Centre
HSBC	HSBC Economics and Strategy
HPM:	Hermes Pensions management Ltd
IMF:	International Monetary Fund
ITEM:	ITEM Club
JPM:	JP Morgan
LB:	Lehmen
Liv:	Liverpool University Research Group in Macroeconomics
LS:	Lombard Street Research Ltd
ML:	Merrill Lynch
MS:	Morgan Stanley
NIESR	National Institute for Economic and Social Research
NG	Natwest Group
NE	Nikko Europe
NUIM:	Norwich Union Investment Management
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OEF	Oxford Economic Forecasting
SB:	Saloman Smith Barney
S:	Schroders
SG:	Societe Generale
WDR:	Warburg Dillon Read
WLBP:	WestLB Panmure
WdB:	Williams de Broë
WE :	Primark WEFA

a: consumers' expenditure deflator
b: underlying consumers' expenditure deflator
c: non-durable consumption
d: current and capital expenditure, including stockbuilding
e: private sector investment, stockbuilding and durable consumption
f: investment and stockbuilding combined
g: as a percentage of GDP
h: contribution to GDP growth - per cent
i: hourly rate
j: end period
k: calendar year
m: non-oil trade
n: wages and salaries divided by employees in employment
o: consumer price deflator to Q4
p: calculated from general government financial deficit figures adjusted for privatisation proceeds
q: forecast growth rates for Q4
r: various definitions; refer to forecasters for details
s: base rate
t: billions of dollars
u: general government current and capital expenditure plus stockbuilding
v: average of spot price of Brent crude and Dubai light crude
w: UK export markets
x: claimant unemployment rate
y: derived from the consumer price index
z: OECD real imports of goods and services
aa: ILO Unemployment
bb: Households only
cc: PSNCR (Formerly PSBR)
dd: Harmonized index of consumer prices (HICP)

Contact lists:

Organisation	Contact	Telephone number
Abn Amro	Richard Iley	0171 374 7171
Barclays Bank	Mark Joint	01202 344 112
Barclays Capital	David Hillier	0171 773 4307
BSL	Neil Blake	0171 630 5959
Cambridge Econometrics	Rachel Beaven	01223 460 760
Charterhouse	Richard Jeffrey	0171 246 2472
Chase Manhattan	Adrian Schmidt	0171 777 4033
CBI	Ranjiv Mann	0171 395 8101
	Sudhir Junankar	..00171 395 8100
CEBR	Solomon Peters	0171 600 6661
Credit Lyonnais	Glenn Davies	0171 214 5388
Credit Suisse First Boston	Robert Barrie	0171 888 7536
Daiwa Europe Ltd/DIR	Don Eggington	0171 548 8712
Deutsche Morgan Grenfell	Ciaran Barr	0171 545 2088
Dresdner Kleinwort Benson	Leo Doyle	0171 956 8074
DRI	Darren Rawcliffe	0181 545 6225
EC	Keith Vernon	(00 322) 299 3446
EIU	Phillip Whyte	0171 830 1287
Economic Perspectives	Peter Warburton	0171 382 8317
Goldman Sachs	Ann Terry	0171 774 1166
Greenwich Natwest	Geoffrey Dicks	0171 389 3892
Henley Centre	Steve Radley	0171 955 1868
Hermes Pensions Man. Ltd	James Walsh	0171 680 2144
HSBC	Jonathan Loynes	0171 336 4147
ITEM club	John Gaster	01865 268913
J P Morgan	David Mackie	0171 325 5040
Lehman Brothers	Mike Dicks	0171 260 2783
Liverpool University	Bruce Webb	01222 874 000
Lombard Street Research Ltd	Stewart Robertson	0171 337 2800
Merrill Lynch	Ian Stewart	0171 772 1512
Morgan Stanley	Mark Miller	0171 513 6643
NIESR	Garry Young	0171 222 7665
Natwest Group	Elisabeth Hall	0171 726 1912
Norwich Union IM	Mike Collins	01603 683680
Oxford Economic Forecasting	Adrian Cooper	01865 202 828
Saloman Smith Barney	Michael Saunders	0171 721 3924
Schroders	Sharda Dean	0171 658 6439
S.G. (Societe Generale)	Brian Hilliard	0171 762 5014
Warburg Dillon Read	Darren Winder	0171 568 4412
Primark WEFA	Paul Robson	0171 631 0757
WestLB Panmure	Stuart Weatherby	0171 860 3659
Williams de Broë	David Smith	0171 588 7511 ext 402